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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON

August 5, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Definition of the Term "Mobilization Base"

- REFERENCES:
- A. NSC Action No. 1522-h
  - B. Memo for NSC from Acting Executive Secretary, subject: "Basic Military Planning Concept to Govern Planning and Development of the Mobilization Base", dated March 1, 1957
  - C. NSC 5707/8
  - D. Memos for NSC from Executive Secretary, subject: "Definition of the Term 'Mobilization Base'", dated July 24 and 26, 1957
  - E. NSC Action No. 1756

The National Security Council, the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Frederick Mueller for the Secretary of Commerce, the Director, Bureau of the Budget, and the Federal Civil Defense Administrator, at the 333rd Council meeting on August 1, 1957 (NSC Action No. 1756):

- a. Noted and discussed the proposed definition of the term "mobilization base" prepared by the Director, Office of Defense Mobilization, pursuant to NSC Action No. 1522-h and transmitted by the reference memorandum of July 24, 1957, and the proposed revision of that definition prepared by the NSC Planning Board and transmitted by the reference memorandum of July 26, 1957; in the light of the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as reported at the meeting.
- b. Adopted the revision of the definition prepared by the NSC Planning Board and transmitted by the reference memorandum of July 26, 1957.

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The President has this date approved the above actions. In accordance with b above, the enclosed definition of the term "mobilization base" is transmitted herewith to all interested departments and agencies.



S. EVERETT GLEASON  
Acting Executive Secretary

cc: The Secretary of the Treasury  
The Secretary of Commerce  
The Director, Bureau of the Budget  
The Federal Civil Defense Administrator  
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Director of Central Intelligence

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DEFINITION OF THE TERM "MOBILIZATION BASE"

For planning purposes the mobilization base is defined as the total of all resources available, or which can be made available, to meet foreseeable wartime needs.

Such resources include the manpower and material resources and services required for the support of essential military, civilian, and survival activities; as well as the elements affecting their state of readiness, such as (but not limited to) the following: manning levels; state of training; modernization of equipment; mobilization materiel reserves and facilities; continuity of government; civil defense plans and preparedness measures; psychological preparedness of the people; international agreements; planning with industry; dispersion; and stand-by legislation and controls.

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47. Mobilization Base. The mobilization base (military and non-military) should be designed to meet the requirements of (a) general war, initiated by the enemy with an atomic onslaught or as a result of hostilities which were not intended to lead to general war, (b) cold war, and (c) military conflict short of general war. Emphasis should be given to those elements that will increase U. S. D-day readiness and capability. The base should meet the following objectives:

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a. Maintenance of the active forces in a condition of optimum readiness to execute initial wartime missions.

b. Maintenance and support in a high state of readiness of those selected reserve forces so essential to the execution of initial wartime missions as to require their being given priority treatment.

c. Maintenance and support of phased expansion to M + 6 months force levels.

d. The capacity to meet the combat requirements of all forces which would be mobilized by M + 6 months.

e. Pre-D-day provision and positioning of reasonably protected stocks of selected supplies and equipment outside the United States to insure that U. S. forces surviving the enemy atomic attack will have a reasonable capability of performing assigned initial tasks effectively despite substantial interruption of resupply from the United States during the initial phase of war.

f. Maintenance and support of the industrial capacity to conserve and replenish stocks that may be used in a local war.

g. Development and maintenance in a high state of readiness of measures essential to survival as a nation, including minimum civilian needs and continuity of government.

Implementation of mobilization base objectives should emphasize immediate combat readiness and effectiveness, reflect any planned reductions in the over-all physical size of the military establishment, and provide for increased selectivity aimed at bringing the mobilization base structure, including equipment and standby facilities, in consonance with strategic concepts.

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